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# Forest Service NEWS



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## BUDWORM WILL NOT BE TREATED DUE TO LACK OF FUNDS

The western spruce budworm infestation in the forests of eastern Oregon and Washington will not be treated in 1986 according to Forest Service Regional Forester Tom Coston. Nationally, limited forest pest management funds are focused on treatment of critical pest problems like the southern pine beetle outbreaks in the South and gypsy moth in the Northeast.

"Although we had planned to treat nearly 500,000 acres this year," Coston said, "the \$5 million necessary to carry out the project simply is not available. However, we will carry on with efforts to develop a solution to the problem through application of varied silvicultural systems."

The Forest Service, Washington State Department of Natural Resources, and the Oregon State Department of Forestry will continue with efforts to monitor budworm populations and evaluate the impacts of uncontrolled outbreaks of this forest pest. Forest Service entomologists predict the current infestation will last several more years. All data collected will be important to evaluation of budworm outbreaks in the future.

"The current outlook for long term budget restraint holds little hope that funds will be available to carry out any large scale treatment programs during the present infestation," Coston added. "However, small, site-specific projects may be attempted to protect selected high value areas like seed orchards and plantations." An Environmental Assessment describing the current situation will be released later this month.

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